

Private Flying

OVER 30,000 AIR GUARD APPLICATIONS

Temporarily "Full Up," But Enrolments May Still be Made at C.A.G. Headquarters

NOT because no more recruits are required, but simply to give the aeroplane clubs a breathing space in which to cope with the enormous number of enrolments already made, a temporary halt is being called in Civil Air Guard recruiting by the clubs. Intending members must apply, instead, direct to the C.A.G. Commissioners.

In a statement issued last Saturday, the Air Ministry says that over 30,000 applications have now been received, and these are continuing at the rate of more than a thousand a week.

Following representations by the Civil Air Guard Commissioners, the Secretary of State for Air, Sir Kingsley Wood, has reviewed the position, and in view of the successful response to the scheme and of the very large number of applicants now registered, he has decided that for the present the club lists for the Civil Air Guard will be closed. This will allow of the absorption of the numbers from whom applications have already been received by the clubs, and these will, it is believed, in most cases occupy all the facilities now available or likely to be available in the near future.

The Commissioners are now, in consultation with the clubs, working out a scheme under which as many as possible of the candidates on the club lists shall receive ground instruction in aviation matters while waiting the opportunity for flying training. Those who receive this instruction pending their flying

training will be enrolled as Civil Air Guard members, but will, of course, not be entitled to wear their "wings" until they have qualified for their pilot's licence.

The Commissioners of the Civil Air Guard themselves explain the present position, adding, for the information of intending applicants, that those members of the public who wish to be considered in the future for Civil Air Guard training are invited to apply in writing to the Secretary of the Commission of the Civil Air Guard, Ariel House, Strand, London, W.C.2, stating where possible the name of the club at which they would prefer to be trained as facilities become available.

These applications will be acknowledged and all names recorded in order of application in the Commissioners' office. As soon as any individual club is in a position to train further applicants, those who have recorded their names at C.A.G. Headquarters, and who live near the club in question, will be put in touch with the club authorities, in order of their recorded priority, with a view to their enrolment at the club for training.

The Commissioners hope that those who come forward in this way to record their names will realise that, although they will have priority of consideration over persons whose names do not appear on the record, some considerable time must necessarily elapse before the clubs have cleared their present waiting lists and are in a position to accept further members for ground and flying instruction.

FROM the CLUBS and SCHOOLS

LONDON

OWING to the very rough weather experienced last week only 65 hr. 45 min. flying was completed. Mr. H. E. Jones became a member.

HERTS AND ESSEX

Flying was held up by the high winds but 153 hours were logged. Mr. P. E. Hindmarsh made his first solo, and night flights were carried out by Messrs. J. E. Brown and E. H. Statham. For September a total of 434 hours was recorded.

BORDER

Due to the extremely high winds which were blowing continuously last week there was very little flying. The club now has five machines in commission and an order for two more has been placed. The C.A.G.s flew 85 hours and one member has made his first solo.

ROMFORD

Of the 225 hours' flying instruction given at Romford, 112 hours were taken by members of the C.A.G. Two of these, Messrs. J. R. Keats and J. Calfe, made their first solo flights. Forty-five new members joined during the month, including Mr. Harold Ramsey of organ-broadcasting fame.

REDHILL

The first squash match of the season, played against Mr. Adams' VI, resulted in a win for Redhill by four matches to two. Flying was curtailed by bad weather and only 74 hours were flown for the week ended October 8. Four new members joined and the C.A.G. applications are now over the 1,000 mark.

SOUTH COAST

Over fifty members of the C.A.G. are taking training and as they obtain their "A" licences their places will be filled by other applicants. High winds and heavy rain have held up flying but, nevertheless, instructors and machines have been busy whenever the weather permitted. The annual dinner and dance will take place on Saturday, October 15, at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, when awards will be presented.

Useful for "A" Aspirants

THE Redhill Flying Club has recently produced a little booklet in which all the essential rules of the air are explained and illustrated. At the beginning a page is devoted to a short exposition of the different requirements for the "A" licence.

Although the information in this book is naturally not sufficiently extensive to supply the pupil with the necessary knowledge for his "A" licence *viva voce* examination, the producers must be congratulated on the score that they might easily have attempted to compete with other and more complete handbooks on the subject. As it is, the rules, signs and lighting regulations are briefly covered in such a way that the pupil will have little difficulty in remembering all the

C.A.S.C.

In spite of the very bad weather during the first week-end of October, the Corps' flying times totalled 14 hr. 45 min., most of which consisted of advanced dual.

NEWCASTLE

Bad weather on Monday and Tuesday of last week reduced the flying time to 34 hr. 30 min., of which 26 hr. 40 min. was spent on C.A.G. work. In the C.A.G. section it is expected that 106 pupils will be under instruction next week.

STRATHTAY

The annual ball of the Strathtay Aero Club has been fixed for November 25, and will take place in the Salutation Hotel, Perth. For September a flying total of 130 hours was arrived at, and of this total C.A.G. members accounted for 28 hours. Mr. A. C. Melville Errol has now obtained his "A" licence.

BROOKLANDS

A party of members anticipates flying down to Shoreham next Saturday for the annual dinner of the South Coast Flying Club. Another handicap competition will be flown off next Sunday, this time in the form of a map-reading event. The car treasure hunt, organised this week, was won by Mr. E. J. Walter.

EDINBURGH

Progress with C.A.G. training at Edinburgh is shown by the fact that members of this denomination put in 5½ hours' solo flying, while the dual instruction total was 10½ hours. Club dual and solo totalled 17 hours, though bad weather considerably curtailed the amount of flying done. Eight machines visited Macmerry.

NOTTINGHAM

Applications for C.A.G. enrolment now number nearly 500 at Nottingham and 23 members are in training. During the month of September the club put in 103 hours' flying and during the week which ended on September 29 the total was 23½ hours. Messrs. J. Garton, W. O. Stokes, D. Cresswell and T. Bullus made their first solos, while "A" licences were obtained by Messrs. K. Smedley and K. H. Temple.

points concerned. At the end of the book the procedure involved in foreign touring is explained, and the controlled zone regulations are given in sufficient detail to prevent the ignorant novice from possible transgression.

Gatwick Activity

AS from October 1, the Insurance Flying Club, which formerly operated at Hanworth, is established at Gatwick Airport.

Incidentally, No. 19 R.A.F. Elementary Flying Training School has now started operations at Gatwick. A new hangar intended to house the sixteen Magisters for this school is in course of construction, as are two new hangars for the Air Ministry adjacent to the Airwork premises.